

Message Text

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72

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 TRSE-00 AID-20

CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08 LAB-06 SAL-01 OMB-01 IO-12 SS-15

NSC-10 RSR-01 /149 W

----- 119344

R 051725 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5005

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ELAB, ICFTU, TS, IS

SUBJECT: ICFTU DELEGATION TO ISRAEL

REF: A. TUNIS 1841 B. EC BRUSSELS 330

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO ENZO FRISO OF THE ICFTU, "BOURGUIBA IS ABSOLUTELY IN FAVOR" OF THE PROPOSED ICFTU DELEGATION TO ISRAEL. END SUMMARY.

2. FRISO TOLD US THAT ON THE BASIS OF THE MEETING WITH BOURGUIBA DESCRIBED IN REFTEL A, HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE TUNISIAN PRESIDENT'S STRONG SUPPORT HAS CLEARLY REVIVED THE IDEA OF THE PROPOSED VISIT TO ISRAEL. BOURGUIBA, HE SAID, VIEWS THE VISIT AS THE KIND OF STEP WHICH "LITTLE BY LITTLE" MUST BE TAKEN IN ORDER, ULTIMATELY, TO ATTAIN PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. IT WAS THROUGH SUCH SMALL STEPS, BOURGUIBA TOLD HIS VISITORS, THAT TUNISIAN INDEPENDENCE WAS ACHIEVED.

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3. ON THE OTHER HAND, FRISO SAID THAT ACHOUR, WHOM THE DELEGATION ALSO SAW SEPARATELY, IS " NOT TOO ENTHUSIASTIC" BECAUSE HE IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE RISK TO HIS LIFE FROM ARAB EXTREMISTS IF HE JOINS THE DELEGATION. HOWEVER, FRISO IS CONFIDENT THAT BOURGUIBA WILL PERSUADE ACHOUR TO PARTICIPATE. (HE ALSO NOTED THAT FEATHER PUSHED VERY HARD WHILE IL' S MIDDLE EAST REPRESENTATIVE IN LONDON.

3. SUBJECT UPPERMOST IN ALL CONVERSATIONS WAS UOCOMING PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE ON ENERGY. THERE WAS GRATIFICATION AT AKINS' ASSURANCE THAT OFFICIALS HAD JUST ABOUT COMPLETED THEIR WORK ON MESSAGE AND THAT APRIL DELIVERY WAS EXPECTED.

4. WITHOUT EXCEPTION, HMG OFFICIALS, BP EXECUTIVES AND ENSOR STRESSED IMPORTANCE THEY ATTACHED TO MESSAGE FOR INDICATIONS OF ACTIONS THEY COULD EXPECT FROM US TO DEAL WITH ENERGY SITUATION AT HOME AND INTERNATIONALLY. THEY COUNTED ON US FOR RANGE OF DOMESTIC PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP INDIGENOUS RESOURCES. IN INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT, THEY THOUGHT IT ESSENTIAL THAT US PROVIDE INITIATIVE WITH CLEAR AND EXPLICIT ENDORSEMENT OF CONSUMER COOPERATION, NOT ONLY FOR OIL EMERGENCY SITUATIONS BUT ALSO TO DEAL COOPERATIVELY WITH SITUATION OF CHRONIC SHORT SUPPLY OF OIL FACING DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

5. THEY EMPHASIZED UNIFORMLY THAT THEY WISHED ABOVE ALL TO AVOID CONFRONTATION OR EVEN APPEARANCE OF CONFRONTATION WITH OPEC PRODUCERS BUT STRONGLY BELIEVED SOME KIND OF CONSUMER COOPERATION ESSENTIAL IN ORDER TO AVOID RUINOUS COMPETITION FOR AVAILABLE OIL SUPPLIES. IN ABSENCE OF SUCH COOPERATION, THEY FEARED THAT " SAUVE QUI PEUT" SCRAMBLE COULD QUICKLY DEVELOP AND INDEED THERE WERE INDICATIONS SCRAMBLE ALREADY BEGINNING.

6. THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF FORMS CONSUMER COOPERATION MIGHT TAKE AND COOPERATIVE ACTIONS CONSUMERS MIGHT ENVISAGE BUT NO RPT NO EFFORT TO REACH CONSENSUS. PREVAILING OPINION WAS THAT THESE MATTERS COULD BE EXPLORED LATER, PROBABLY THROUGH DIPO LOMATIC CHANNELS, BUT THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR US TO GO ON RECORD IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PRESIDENT' S MESSAGE IN SUPPORT OF COOPERATIVE APPROACH

BY MAJOR CONSUMERS TO SECURITY AND STABILITY OF OIL
SUPPLIES AND DEVELOPMENT NEW ENERGY SOURCES.

SOHM

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*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAGS: ELAB, IS, TS, ICFTU
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BEIRUT
BRUSSELS
LONDON
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TUNIS

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